The Negro Farmer and Messenger

Published Bi-Weekly in the Interest of the Home, Farm and Garden; especially devoted to the Interest of Negro Land Owners and Tenant Farmers and Those Who Employ Negro Labor. The Only Negro Farm Newspaper in the World to be Circulated Among 2 000,000 Black Farmers.

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Why Cream Should Be Cared for on the Farm

By H. H. Harris, In Charge of the Creamery Division, Tuskegee Institute, Alabama

With the boll weevil ravages of last year, the flooded condition this year and the resulting large growth of grass, comes the question of how to make the farm pay something. Many farmers who realize that the cow will handle grass and the leavings of wasted or ruined crops to good advantage hesitate at starting a dairy because of the lack of knowledge in caring for the cream.

Local creameries and other markets make demands which the farmer thinks are hard to come up to, but in reality they are easy.

In order to make first-class butter the cream should be delivered to the creamery in a sweet condition or nearly so. You may be as careful as you can in producing cream, but there will be some undesirable germs in it. There will be also a large number of the germs that cause milk to sour. Both increase rapidly and their excessive growth is the cause of most of the poor butter made.

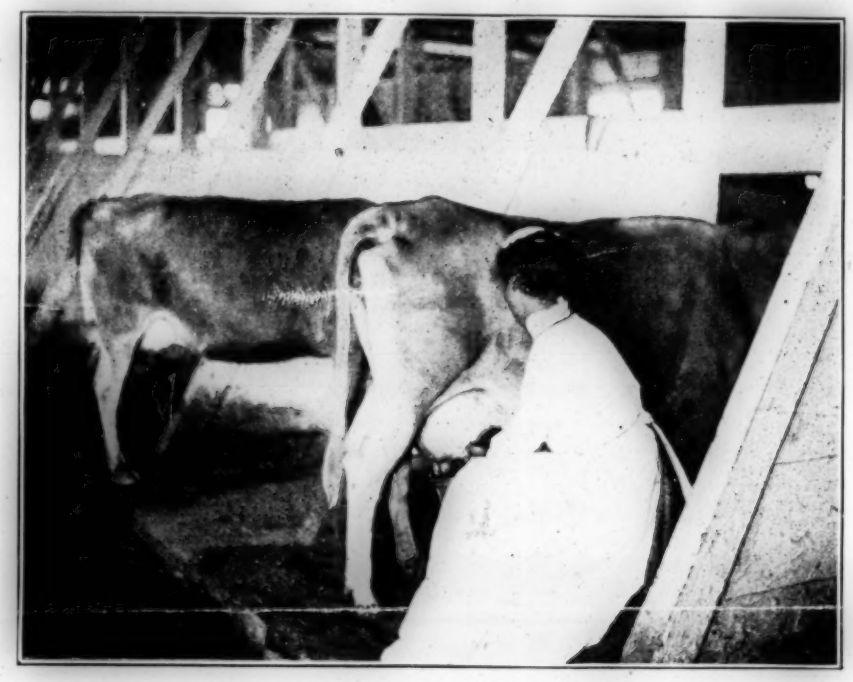
Even in dairy communities only 20 per cent of the butter made is first-class or extra. This means that 80 per cent of the butter made is not the best, certainly not the worst, but not the best. The market often makes a difference of 15 cents a pound between the best butter and the poorest butter, and a difference of from 2 to 5 cents in first and second grade butter.

If a creamery produces 1,000 lbs. of butter, only 20 per cent of which is first-class, a loss of at least 2 cents a lb. on the remaining 80 per cent, or $16, is sustained. If some of this butter is below second grade the loss is increased in proportion. Also the creamery loses its reputation for good butter and the markets discriminate more against them. No manufacturer can rise in the finished product very much above the quality of the raw material he uses, and this applies as much to the manufacture of butter as to anything else.

A low temperature is one of the best natural factors for preserving the quality of all perishable products. Cream and milk are among our most perishable products, therefore, unless the animal heat is driven out by quickly cooling, a rapid fermentation takes place.

We realize that it is impracticable for the majority of farmers to keep a supply of ice, so have turned our attention to cooling cream by the use of water without involving a great expense on the part of the farmer.

Throughout the South the temperature of well water runs between 55 - 60 degrees. If cream cannot be cooled to 80 degrees Fahrenheit, it may be cooled to near 55 degrees and kept in fair condition for delivery to the creamery two or three times weekly. The following plan has worked satisfactorily: It requires an oil barrel burned out, placed in the milk house or between the pump and the stock watering tank.



No animal covers a wider field of usefulness on the farm, than the milk cow. She consumes the waste, fattens the pigs and children, and swells the Bank Account.

Between the first and second hoops drill a few one-inch holes. These are for the overflow. Just below the second hoop drill one 1½-inch hole. The water pipe from the well is to enter at this point. On the inside of the hole you may place a wooden trough to carry the water to the bottom of the barrel. On the side of the barrel, next to the water tank and above the third hoop, drill a two-inch hole and connect with a pipe to carry the water to the tank. A tight box can be used in place of the barrel.

An arrangement of the above description will keep a five or ten gallon can of cream cool and in fairly good condition for three-day deliveries, providing that all the water needed for the stock has been passed through the barrel. When a can of cream is placed in the barrel it should be stirred for three or four minutes so that it will cool uniformly.

A great deal of credit is due the DeLaval Separator Company, for they have devoted a lot of time and money in getting out a tank that would enable the farmers to produce a quality of cream that could be made into extra butter. Investigations made by this company in Oklahoma during the hottest weather in August, showed that cream could be delivered every third day sweet enough for ice cream purposes, when it was cooled just by the use of well water in their tank, notwithstanding the fact that the tank stood outdoors exposed to the hot rays of the sun.

Those who can afford it, should purchase one of these tanks. We are of the opinion that one of them should go with every DeLaval separator sold in the South.

Community Canning

A Most Effective Method of Fighting the Boll Weevil

By H. B. Benson, In Charge of Canning Division, Tuskegee Institute, Alabama

We hear a great deal nowadays about diversified farming and this talk is strengthened more and more because of the appearance of the boll weevil into several sections of the South. This means, however, that a variety of crops must be grown. But the question which confronts the majority of our Southern farmers is, where is a market for those crops which I might grow? My conviction is, a market will follow the crops as well as some crops will follow the market.

Have you not noticed that, since the boll weevil made its appearance in Texas several years ago and in its travel towards the east, every section it has reached was unprepared for its coming? You have noticed further that that section is crippled for at least two years after having been invaded by this pest and has, to a large degree, to depend upon some other section for its food supplies. There is a market!

Then grow all kinds of food stuff, organize and operate community canneries, thereby being able to give strength to those communities which have fallen victim to the enemy, boll weevil.

How to Organize a Successful Co-operative

Community Cannery

First: The loyal spirit of co-operation must prevail. Every person concerned must pull together hand in hand. Estimate approximately the acreage of each crop the outfit will take care of, plant such crops as might be easily canned and have them come to the cannery at such a time that the canning will not hinder the general work of the farm. By doing this, the man in charge of the canning knows just how to figure in advance. He can buy his cans, labels and other supplies and have them ready just when and where he needs them. The object of this community cannery should be to see that every family within its boundary is supplied with fruits and vegetables enough to supply it for at least one year and have a surplus that might be passed on to any other section that is in need.

The Relation of the Rural Teacher to Her Community

The teacher has a mission which no other person can fill. Under her charge have been placed children of all ages from 6 to 21 years, most of whom are untaught, untrained, have no regard for the rights of others and no idea of what discipline means.

She should not only be able to impart to them the necessary book-knowledge, but give them some idea of what the school means to them and why they attend school.

Most of these children come from homes where parents are ignorant and have no knowledge of what it means to train children properly, so the teacher has to supply this lack to the best of her ability.

How then can the teacher supply this lack? She will not be able, owing to the shortness of the school term, to see each parent personally and talk to them, but a little organization of her forces will help.

In order to reach the people conveniently, she should organize the community into a School Improvement League which includes not only the parents and friends in the community, but also the school children, parents' clubs (farmers and mothers.) These meetings should be held at the schoolhouse under the direction of the teacher, at least once a month.

At these meetings the parents and the teacher may discuss how to better the community by means of beautifying their homes and school, and improving their farms; how to make the school do the most for the benefit of the community, the discipline of children; also have programs showing some phases of the work done by the children at school, and any number of topics dealing with their relation to the home, school and community.

Of course, the teacher must realize that she cannot do much without the co-operation of the parents and the other people in her community. After having organized the community and put all her forces to work, she will not have much difficulty in controlling the children and keeping up the community spirit.

The teacher must be a real live factor in all meetings which deal with the betterment of the school and community—not to dictate what should be done, but to help wherever and whenever she can with her suggestions and means.

In order to be successful in her work she must be an example to her pupils in neatness, promptness, regularity of habits and in all her dealings with them, remembering that children are imitators by nature and that "as the teacher is, so will be the school."

Although there are many other things which may be done, with a little tact and skill the teacher may be able to accomplish results, after having lined up her forces and received the co-operation of the parents. All other tasks will be comparatively easy.

(Miss) K. Elizabeth Trammell,
Marion, Alabama.

Boys' and Girls' Clubs for Negroes

To help Negro boys become practical farmers, and to assist Negro girls in becoming competent housewives, the U. S. Department of Agriculture, in co-operation with the State colleges, is organizing throughout the South, Farm Makers' Clubs for rural Negro children.

This activity, begun experimentally last year by the Office of Extension Work, South, has grown rapidly, and already is thoroughly organized in Virginia, North Carolina, Florida and Mississippi. The work also is being carried on to some extent in each of the other Southern States.

The chief object of these clubs is to encourage Negro farmers, particularly in the cotton sections, to raise some food instead of devoting their entire attention to a single crop.

In the clubs for boys, the typical plan is to encourage and help the members to use an acre, one-half of which is devoted to corn, one-fourth to potatoes, and one-fourth to peanuts. This teaches a desirable rotation, and at the same time furnishes three food products for human consumption, and two that are useful for cattle or hogs. The girl members of these clubs receive practical instruction in gardening, canning, cooking, and housekeeping.

According to reports, the county superintendent of schools and teachers of Negro elementary schools are supporting the work actively, and State agricultural colleges and the technical schools established for the race are active co-operators in the larger phases of the work.

FALL AND WINTER GARDENS

By W. W. Hayes, In Charge of the Truck Gardening, Tuskegee Institute, Alabama

Every farmer should have a garden from which he should be able to get some kind of vegetables each day in the year. It is very common for most farmers to have good gardens during the spring and early summer, and neglect planting a fall garden, which is very essential. In many cases we are able to be more successful with our winter gardens as we do not have to fight the summer insects and diseases.

A rich loam or sandy loam soil is the best adapted for the most vegetables, and should be well drained either naturally or by under draining.

Before beginning to plant it is very necessary that the land be put in perfect condition, removing all grass, weeds and stumps. Be sure that the land is made rich by the use of barnyard manure, so that the plants can grow off rapidly, and will be large enough to stand through the cold winter months.

Begin now to plant rape, rutabagas and turnips. Also sow a few Early Jersey Wakefield cabbage seed for early winter use. A few cents spent now and a little labor will give you a splendid supply of winter vegetables, that will be hard to beat in value.

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FALL GARDENING IN THE SOUTH

Among the vegetables which may be planted at practically any time during the summer, with fair assurance of success, are beans. Bush squash may also be planted even in the hottest weather if they have not been made a part of the garden at an earlier season. With the beginning of August practically the entire list of ordinary vegetables is open to the fall gardener for choice. Beets, parsnips, carrots, celery, sweet corn, radishes, lettuce and peas may be planted at this time, many of them in succession crops at frequent intervals.

Turnips

Turnip seed may be sown during the latter part of August and throughout September and the first half of October. Sow turnip seed thickly in rows 15 to 18 inches apart, and when the plants reach a height of 4 or 5 inches begin thinning, using the young plants for greens. For good roots thin the plants to about three inches apart in the row. Keep the land well cultivated to keep down the weeds and to leave the surface loose and friable. In a small garden, cultivation with a hand cultivator is the most practicable. Turnips may be left in the ground until needed for the table, or may be pulled as soon as they are mature, and stored in a cellar or buried in banks or pits. The varieties of turnips commonly grown in the South are Purple Top Globe, White Globe, Seven Top, White Milan, and Yellow Aberdeen.

BOLL WEEVIL SITUATION FROM NOW UNTIL THE FIRST KILLING FROST

By C. D. Menafee, Farm Demonstration Agent, Lee County, Alabama

The ravages of the boll weevil will be very serious in fields that have been infested by weevils that were left over during the winter and where the picking up and burning of infested squares have been neglected. Such fields will be infested beyond control of the ordinary farmer and the damage will range from forty to sixty per cent. Fields that were not already so will be greatly infested during the months of August and September; bolls of all sizes will puncture, and eggs will be deposited in them.

Weather conditions have produced such rank growth of foliage in fertile lands that favorable conditions for the work and rapid reproduction of the weevil are inevitable in most fields. Such conditions with the surplus moisture of the fall will give us a new generation of weevils every fourteen (14) days.

Labor fever must be stamped out and forgotten, and the time of lease must be extended as long as farmers can meet their demand in reason. The business men and farmers must have confidence in the method of producing cotton under weevil conditions in order to enter the fight.

God made man ruler over every living creature, and we must faithfully confide in Him as we enter this great battle this fall. The gathering of the squares late, very shallow cultivation and the brushing of the stalks should continue until the first picking of the cotton. Clean fields will reduce the ravages of the weevil greatly. Winter hiding places, such as stumps and sapwood, must be removed. Early stalk destruction and winter cover crops should be our motto. Late maturing cottonseed should no longer exist in Alabama. County officials will be needed in the fight this fall.

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For further information write to Clinton J. Calloway, Manager, Tuskegee Institute, Alabama; or A. A. Chandler, Baldwin Farms, Route 1, Milstead, Alabama.

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VERNON W. BARNETT....*Editor and Business Mgr.*

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SATURDAY, AUGUST 26, 1916

A Helpful School Meeting

Colored Trustees of Rural Schools of Macon County, Alabama, Hold Important School Meeting at Tuskegee Institute

That rural life affords the very best possible opportunity for the masses of our people, is a fact that is no longer doubted; and those who have entered, conscientiously, into the development of country life, have thoroughly demonstrated that morally, intellectually, physically, and financially, the beauty of farm life is surpassed by that of no other profession. It is a most gratifying sign of progress that the city craze is no longer prominent in the minds of our country folk but they've caught the spirit as never before of, "Cast down your buckets where you are."

Meeting Begins

This spirit is seldom more strikingly shown than was true on Wednesday, August 9th, when fully 800 colored people representing the fifty-nine communities of Macon County, Alabama, assembled at the Tuskegee Institute, for the purpose of discussing matters pertaining to the development of their various communities.

The rural supervisors, Misses Woodall and Cunningham, and Mr. Kimmuel Huggins had thoroughly aroused each community and long before the opening hour, men, women, and children began to congregate around the Institute Chapel.

At the close of the devotional exercises which were conducted by Rev. W. S. Smith, pastor of Greenwood Baptist Church, Miss S. L. Woodall, in a few well chosen words, presented Prof. C. J. Calloway, whose opening remarks were as follows:

"We have met here today to foster, to encourage that great work which lay so heavily upon the heart of the greatest Negro that ever lived—Dr. Booker T. Washington. No people claimed a greater share of his time and talent than the rural people. You cannot better show your appreciation for what he did than by striving day by day to make rural life more wholesome and inviting.

"Yours is the important task of harnessing the work of our schools to the activities of the community, and now I have the privilege of presenting to you Hon. W. B. Riley, County Superintendent of Education, whose untiring efforts and wise direction have done so much to bring the Negro rural schools of Macon County to the front."

Superintendent Riley Speaks

"I am glad to see so many of you here and to note such beautiful display of canned fruits and vegetables. There is no reason why you people shouldn't do sufficient canning, not only for family use but to supply the market as well.

"This industrial feature that has been placed in every school in Macon County is destined to change conditions in every community and make country life more worth while.

"If I would make one suggestion today that I consider of vital importance to you in your school work, it would be, that you, trustees and patrons, should stand together and work harmoniously. You should secure a teacher who is fully in sympathy with rural life and who is also willing to live in the community the year round. And when you get such a teacher, encourage her, make her stay in your community pleasant. Only in this way can you expect to have substantial success and a strong, serviceable people.

"I wish now to present to you a man who needs no introduction, and who has always shown a deep interest in the welfare of the colored people everywhere — Lawyer C. W. Hare, Editor of the Tuskegee News.

Lawyer Hare Speaks

"To see the commendable efforts that you are exerting in your various communities, as proven by your presence and by the splendid exhibits that are shown here today, reminds me that you people have caught the spirit of real education and no longer make yourselves satisfied with getting the stiff facts from books but are finding education of a most satisfactory kind in everything that pertains to community uplift.

"I wish to remind you, colored trustees, that yours is a keen responsibility—that of helping to shape the destiny of the youth of your communities. The kind of community—the kind of boys and girls you have, will depend largely upon the manner in which you perform your important duties. Stand by your schools, stand by your boys and girls, stand by your communities, and there'll be no fear as to the future of your people."

Vice-Principal Logan Speaks

Mr. Logan, after reading a very encouraging letter from Dr. W. D. Weatherford, bearing upon the work and progress of Macon County schools, spoke in a most helpful way urging our people to strive earnestly to make themselves worthy of the opportunities provided for them.

He said that it is only through patient endeavor and conscientious service that we may hope to make substantial progress. "I want to say to you that the Tuskegee Institute stands ready to encourage you in any earnest endeavor to build up a strong community."

Spelling Match

A very interesting feature of the day was the Spelling Match conducted by Prof. Marsden of the Tuskegee Institute Faculty, between representative members of the Macon County schools. After a very lively competition the three prizes were won by

Louis Huggins, Rising Star school, first prize, $3.00.

Bertha Ross, Children's House, Tuskegee Institute, second prize, $2.00.

Glennie McMullen, Gold Dust community, third prize, $1.00.

Supervisors' Reports

Reports of supervisors showed that 3,000 cans of fruit and vegetables had been canned and $5,000 raised for school improvement since last October. Twenty school gardens and fourteen school farms have been cultivated; eight schoolhouses completed and ten fitted up for domestic science; twenty-four community clubs organized. This community organization has resulted in cleaner homes, better health, better school attendance, better farms, and a deeper interest in rural life.

The reports of trustees and mothers' clubs were very interesting and showed that all of the forces of the community had been brought to bear in this improvement which was so evident.

To encourage rural activity, the merchants of the town of Tuskegee provided 23 prizes which were awarded at the close of the meeting.

The meeting was made even more enjoyable and helpful by the beautiful music rendered by the Institute band, the Tuskegee Glee Club under the efficient direction of Mr. Richard Mann, and the Rising Star Glee Club directed by Mr. Barney.

After the prizes were awarded, the meeting adjourned and every one left feeling that he had been benefited and fully determined to carry new life into each community.

Amid The Panic a New School is Dedicated

A neat little school in Macon County known as the Brownville 2 School was dedicated Sunday, August 13th. The program was to be carried out at 2:00 o'clock p. m. It was evident that the patrons and children of this community are very proud and appreciate their new school; they had gathered in great numbers at 10:00 o'clock.

About 12:00 o'clock the party from Tuskegee Institute headed by Mr. Clinton J. Calloway, Head of the Extension Department, arrived. Those in the party were Messrs. C. J. Calloway, Clement Richardson, J. H. Palmer, G. R. Bridgeforth and son, Photographer Robinson and Mr. Oneal from Fort Valley, Georgia, U. S. Demonstration Agent for Houston County.

The party was met and taken through class room number one. This is a neat room with comfortable desks, well framed and appropriate pictures, a neat book case, properly jacketed stove, and at the windows hung very pretty quarter curtains. Through large folding doors that make number one and number two class rooms into one, the party was taken into class room two. This class room, which is to be used for sewing, handicraft and serving, was furnished with chairs, a nice size table laid for a dinner, with pretty white linen, and simple silver. The curtains were the same throughout the building. Large folding doors open out of room two into room three, the kitchen. Here dinner for the party was being prepared. The dining room and kitchen are nicely equiped with necessary furnishings to teach beautiful home service.

A few minutes rest for the party, and a most elaborate country dinner, consisting of

cabbage, beans, okra, creamed potatoes, fried chicken, gravy, bread, pickles, chess pies, cake, and cream, was served. Two little girls, Onnie Sistrunk and Elizabeth Baker, waited table very creditably. Pretty flowers were arranged throughout the three rooms. There is a vestibule and a cloak room for girls and one for boys also.

At 2:00 o'clock the program was carried out as follows, with S. L. Woodall presiding:

Song, audience; Prayer, Mr. M. T. Talley; Melodies; Welcome address, Onnie Sistrunk, 6th grade; Reading names of patrons who took a generous part in erecting new building, by Mr. N. F. Woodall; Report of trustees, led by Mr. Wm. Brown, chairman; Mr. Joseph Forte; Melody; Addresses by Messrs. C. J. Calloway, Clement Richardson, G. R. Bridgeforth, Oneal, J. H. Palmer and C. D. Robinson; Melody; Collection.

The program was interesting. Each of the speakers from Tuskegee gave the most helpful advice and encouragement to these struggling people of Brownville 2.

Misses Daisy Weston, one of Macon County's strong teachers and Lillian Cunningham, one of the supervisors, were present. Miss Weston gave a comparison of the work in that community with the work in her own as well as wholesome suggestions.

At the end of the program a collection of $6.92 was taken. This money is to be used to foster the school work. Announcements were made and everybody went home with a cheerful heart. We feel pretty sure that through this new school at Brownville 2, many girls and boys will be developed into useful men and women. Had it been possible for Mr. Julius Rosenwald to have heard the real expressions of gratefulness uttered by those people to him for making it possible for them to have this building, I am sure he would have said, "Truly, it has not been in vain." Mr. Rosenwald's name will ever be cherished in Brownville 2 community.

S. L. WOODALL.

Negro Farmers in Eight Counties Receive Instruction

Eight Thousand, Five Hundred and Thirty-Five Men, Women and Children Taught

A series of Extension Schools of Agriculture for Negro Farmers, their wives and children is being held simultaneously in East and West Alabama by two crews of Negro Extension workers, under the auspices of Extension Service of the United States Department of Agriculture and Alabama Polytechnic Institute.

These schools are being conducted by a corps of workers from the Tuskegee Institute, assisted by local Negro County Agents in different parts of the State.

Up to Saturday, August 12th, eight of the fourteen counties designated for the Summer Extension Schools have been worked as follows:

East Alabama, crew No. 1: Bullock, Pike, Barbour, Lee.

West Alabama, crew No. 2: Sumpter, Hale, Marengo, Greene.

In these schools for Negro farmers, special effort is being put forth by the workers to eliminate, as far as possible, lengthy lectures, laying special emphasis on the performing of actual service through demonstrations out in the field assisted by the people, whom it is

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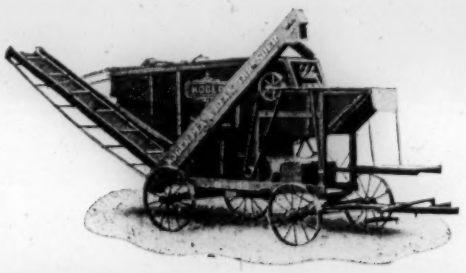

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The Sunday School Lesson

Owing to delay in mail, the Sunday School lesson for last Sunday did not reach this office in time for publication in last issue of The Negro Farmer and Messenger. We are, therefore, publishing three lessons in this issue.—Ed.

AUGUST 27TH

The Riot at Ephesus. Acts 19:23-41.—This riot at Ephesus came as the climax of nearly three years of labor by Paul at Ephesus, another rich city where, nevertheless, Paul worked with his own hands for his living.

It was instigated by one Demetrius, a silversmith, who found his trade in shrines and other accessories of the worship of Diana. As the ministry of Paul increased the number of disciples, Demetrius discovered that the trade in shrines was falling off—the people ceasing to worship idols. This meant that his living was in danger, and the living of all those who had anything to do with the trade in these articles. So he called his fellow-craftsmen together and urged on them the danger of the destruction of their trade and the decline of religion growing out of this "new way." This double appeal to the pocket and to religious scruples produced in due time a great turmoil in the city, which had its final effect in the seizing of two of Paul's companions, who assisted Paul in the matter of collections for the poor saints at Jerusalem. Paul wanted to go to the defense of his brethren, but friends restrained him. The climax of the seizure of these men was a great public demonstration in the theatre. Very adroitly the leaders put up a Jew to make the charge against Aristarchus and Gaius, supposing that a Jew could more effectually discredit them before the multitude; but when the multitude saw the Jew on the rostrum, it proved to be an equal offense to their zeal for their ancient worship, and such a tumult arose as was not quelled for two hours. Then the civil authorities took a hand in the affair and after a rebuke to Demetrius for disturbing the public peace, dismissed the crowd and released Aristarchus and Gaius, so that the whole affair came to naught.

For Daily Use: The most zealous enemies of good are to be found among those who make money out of the evil that it would correct. Watch it.

SEPTEMBER 3RD.

Paul's Sorrows and Comforts. II Cor. 11:21 to 12:10.—This lesson may be clearer to some if studied under the title, "Paul's Defense of His Ministry." It was written by the Apostle as an answer to his enemies in the church at Corinth who had tried to discredit his authority as an apostle.

His enemies had reproached him for his activity among and interest in the Gentiles; doubtless they had mentioned the fact that he frequently appealed with pride to his Roman citizenship. In answer to this he calls attention to his Jewish blood and ancestry — in Phillippians 3 he goes into more detail. On this ground then his authority was as strongly established as that of any others.

He next pleads the extent and character of

his service to the church as another ground of his apostolic authority (chapter 11:23-33). Here Paul gives an epitome of his experiences on his missionary journeys that is thrilling in its suggestiveness. When one studies this passage in detail he begins to realize how very meagre is the account that we have in the Acts or elsewhere of the life and activities of the Apostle to the Gentiles. Here are hints at arduous labors, thrilling adventures, hazardous undertakings by this great pioneer of the Cross of Christ, that, did we but have the full story, would make the accounts of modern explorers and missionaries read like the story of a boy's outing. This record alone marks him the greatest of the apostles.

But over and above both his Jewish blood and his record of service Paul places those exalted experiences, beginning with his conversion, wherein the Lord himself was revealed unto him. These he was unable to describe, but he repeatedly refers to them as the basis of his commission to preach the gospel, and as giving him an authority in the church derived not from men, not from the original twelve disciples, but from Jesus Christ himself (chapter 12:1-4).

These were experiences in which he well might glory. He does so in this instance only because he is provoked to defend himself from the attacks of his enemies. Even then his sensitive nature recoils from so unpleasant a task, and he does not hesitate to describe himself as foolish to refer to these things at all; but in some measure he feels justified by the circumstances and the issues at stake. But Paul was equally as keen to recognize his own deficiencies. What these were, he never says in direct words; but his enemies had frequently used them as the basis of their bitter attacks upon his authority. But even these things Paul makes use of to his advantage. Instead of being ashamed, instead of suffering them to embarrass him, he uses them to glory in the grace of God, whom he served. He makes his own weakness to be the glory of the strength of Christ (chapter 12:5-10).

For Daily Use: Learn like Paul and another great soul whom we cherish to "Take Advantage of Your Disadvantages." Use 12:10 for a motto.

SEPTEMBER 10

The Arrest of Paul. Acts 21:17-40. — We are entering with this lesson upon the study of the culminating events in the career of Paul. The lessons that follow have a direct and orderly sequence; the drama of his final martyrdom for the sake of the Cross moves toward its climax.

In a former lesson we saw how he was moved to go to Jerusalem and the forebodings that he had about the dangers awaiting him there. Stopping at Cesarea, Agabus, a prophet from Jerusalem, foretells his arrest which is the subject of this lesson. The lesson story records Paul's activities at Jerusalem and the circumstances of his arrest. Arriving there he first reports to the brethren the success of his ministry among the Gentiles. Then is he appraised of the charges being circulated against him (v. 21); and the brethren suggest a way for Paul to refute these charges without entering into a public discussion and the attendant danger of public disorder (vs. 23, 24.) Paul unhesitatingly conforms to their suggestion. But the enmity of the Jews who held to the ancient faith had already been aroused, and they fastened upon his association in the city with a Gentile as the basis for the charge that he had polluted the temple by bringing this Gentile in to the sacred enclosure—which, of course, was specifically forbidden. He was seized in the temple and rushed outside where preparations were made to kill him. But before their purpose could be carried out a Roman guard appeared and rescued Paul from the mob. But these in turn mistook him for an old offender and leader of a band of seditionists, and proceeded to place him in prison, the crowd clamoring at their heels.

At this point Paul takes advantage of his Roman citizenship to aid him in his difficulty, and with this claim gets permission from the captain of the guard to address the crowd. The captain is surprised to find his prisoner speaking Greek — he thought him an Egyptian; but he must have been still more surprised to find him a moment after speaking to the crowd in the Hebrew tongue. That speech and the events that immediately followed it are the subject for study in the next lesson.

For Daily Use: Observe Paul's fearlessness and his resourcefulness.

A great cause was the source of Paul's continued inspiration. He ventured anything in its behalf and allowed nothing to terrify him. But he never failed to use his wits. A level head more than once delivered him from impending danger. It proved so this time. "The Lord is my strength and my shield, of whom shall I be afraid."

HOW LARGE A FARM BUSINESS BRINGS THE MOST PROFIT?

The size of farm business has a great deal to do with the profit that results. It is true that there is no size, either of farm or of farm business, that is best for farm conditions for all men. Some men can manage much larger farms than others, but a moderate size of farm business is more likely to succeed in the hands of the average man than one extra large or small.

In Johnson County, Missouri, one group of men on 160-acre farms made more money than another group on 500-acre farms, largely because the men on the larger farms were owners who did not feel the need of working very hard and consequently made much less money than their industrious neighbors, struggling upward on smaller farms. Crop yields measure the quality of the land and go a long way toward determining how profitable the farm is to be. One group of men on 260-acre farms made less than another group on 100-acre farms, not in this case because of difference in ownership but because those on the larger farms had so much lower yields that they were much less profitable. This must not be taken to indicate, however, that the yields were smaller on the larger farms, for in general the reverse was true and the larger yields per acre were found on the larger farms.

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